

REMARKS

Claims 7-10, 20, and 21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the title is amended, claims 20 and 21 are amended, and claims 1-6 and 11-19 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter found therein. Claims 20 and 21 are amended to include the allowed subject matter of claim 7 as indicated on page 6 of the Office Action. The title is amended in response to the objection for not being directed to the elected claims. It is respectfully requested the objection be withdrawn. Also, formal drawings are provided for Figs. 1-38. No new matter has been added.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration, as all of the claims recite features indicated as allowable and (c) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Watko in the April 19, 2006 telephone interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

During the interview, Applicants' representative explained to Examiner Watko that the drawings filed on September 29, 2003 and June 23, 2004, are properly labeled. Specifically, the figures are properly labeled Fig. 4A, Fig. 4B, Fig. 5A, and Fig. 5B. Applicants' representative directed Examiner Watko's attention to the September 29, 2003 drawings as shown in Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) where the figures are properly labeled Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, and 5B. Examiner Watko explained that in the official Image File Wrapper (IFW), the September 29, 2003 drawings do not correspond to the drawings as indicated in PAIR. That is, the September 29, 2003 drawings in the official IFW label the figures as Fig. 4 and Fig. 5. Examiner Watko explained that the September 29, 2003

drawings as filed in the official IFW are the drawings being considered. Accordingly, as agreed during the telephone interview, Applicants will resubmit the drawings including Figs. 4A, 4B, 5A, and 5B to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.84. The replacement sheet for Fig. 1 properly places the reference lines in compliance with §1.84(q). The replacement sheet for Fig. 2 changes one of the reference numbers "111" to "111c" in agreement with the specification on page 28, line 25.

As to reference characters 25A and 25a, the specification clearly states that the upper magnetic pole layer 25 comprises a first magnetic pole part 25a in contact with the recording gap layer 24, and a second magnetic pole part 25b disposed on the first magnetic pole part 25a (page 27, lines 9-13). Because the second magnetic pole part 25b is disposed on the first magnetic pole part 25a and both the first and second magnetic pole parts 25a, 25b form the upper magnetic pole layer 25, the reference lines for the first magnetic pole part 25a and the second magnetic pole part 25b are drawn to the same upper magnetic pole layer 25. The specification also clearly states that the upper magnetic pole layer 25 also comprises a track width defining part 25A and a yoke part 25B (page 27, lines 13-14). As clearly shown in the replacement sheet for Fig. 1, reference character 25A does not designate the same part as reference characters 25a, 25b, or 25B.

The replacement sheet for Fig. 4 properly labels Fig. 4 as Fig. 4A and Fig. 4B. Similarly, the replacement sheet for Fig. 5 properly labels Fig. 5 as Fig. 5A and Fig. 5B. Accordingly, as clearly shown in Figs. 4A-5B, the partial views are properly labeled with numbers 4A and 4B and similarly, numbers 5A and 5B. Because the drawings are in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.84, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

The specification and title are objected to for minor informalities found therein. As discussed above, the title is amended to be descriptive. Also, for at least the same reasons as discussed above with respect to the drawings, the minor informalities objected to in the

specification are corrected. That is, on page 25, line 19, the specification recites "Figs. 4A and 4B." Replacement sheet for Fig. 4 properly labels the partial views as Figs. 4A and 4B. Likewise, on page 39, line 18, the specification recites "Figs. 5A and 5B." The replacement sheet for Fig. 5 properly labels the partial views as Figs. 5A and 5B. Additionally, on page 28, line 25, the specification recites "joints 111c." The replacement sheet for Fig. 2 properly labels the joints 111c in agreement with the specification. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the specification and title be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 20, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0075943 A1 to Jiang et al. (Jiang) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,861,937 B1 to Feng et al. (Feng). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 20 and 21 are amended to include the allowed subject matter of claim 7 as indicated in paragraph 11, page 6 of the Office Action. Accordingly, claims 20 and 21 are allowable for at least the reasons that claim 7 is allowed. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to claims 20 and 21 be withdrawn. With respect to the rejection of claims 1, 2, 11, and 12, the cancellation of claims 1, 2, 11, and 12 renders the rejection moot. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 3-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jiang in view of Feng and further in view of JP 55-12523 A to Kawakami et al. (Kawakami). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The cancellation of claims 3-5 renders the rejection moot. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jiang in view of Feng and further in view of JP 05-250636 A to Takeda et al. (Takeda). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The cancellation of claim 6 renders the rejection moot. Thus, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 20 and 21 along with previously allowed claims 7-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Kurt P. Goudy
Registration No. 52,954

JAO:KPG/tbm

Attachments:

Petition for an Extension of Time
Replacement Sheets (38)

Date: May 2, 2006

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
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Deposit Account No. 15-0461

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 1, 2, 4, and 5 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 1, 2, 4, and 5. Also, formal replacement sheets have been provided for all Figs. 1-38.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets (38)